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Filing Date: January 22, 2002

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO CONTROL WEEDS

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## **PENDING CLAIMS**

1. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:
a weed contacting member suspendable within the body of water proximate a bed of
weeds; and

a drive member for moving the weed contacting member in a repeating, circular arc pattern over the bed of weeds, the weed contacting member freely hanging down from a support member located at a surface of the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly brushes against any weeds in the bed of weeds, wherein the weed contacting member includes an elongate member extending in a parallel direction relative to a length of the support member.

- 2. (Previously Presented) The weed control system of claim 1, wherein the weed contacting member is flexibly attached to the support member which is located approximately on or above a surface of the body of water.
- 3. (Original) The weed control system of claim 1, wherein the weed contacting member includes a cross-bar having a plurality of tines extending from a body of the cross-bar.
- 4. (Original) The weed control system of claim 1, wherein the drive member is reversible and is configured to change a direction of movement of the weed contacting member when a predetermined time limit is reached.
- 5. (Original) The weed control system of claim 1, wherein the drive member includes a pair of opposing nozzles which alternately eject a jet of water to drive the drive member.

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6. (Previously Presented) The weed control system of claim 1, wherein the weed contacting member includes a plurality of times disposed along a length of the elongate member and running in a perpendicular direction relative to a motion of the weed contacting member.

- 7. (Previously Presented) The weed control system of claim 1, wherein the support member is at least six feet long and the weed contacting member is disposed along at least a portion of the length of the support member.
- 8. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising: a weed contacting member including an elongate member suspended from a support member and extending along the support member in a parallel direction relative to a length of the support member; and

water activated means including a nozzle which emits water to develop thrust for moving the support member and the weed contacting member in a repeating pattern through the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly contacts any weeds in a path of the weed contacting member.

9. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising: a weed contacting member including an elongate member suspended from a support member and extending in a parallel direction relative to a length of the support member; and water activated means including a nozzle which emits water to develop thrust for moving the weed contacting member in a repeating pattern through the body of water such that the weed

wherein water activated means further comprises a second nozzle and a water pump coupled to the nozzle and the second nozzle which open in generally opposite directions from each other and which are alternately activated.

contacting member repeatedly contacts any weeds in a path of the weed contacting member;

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10. (Previously Presented) The weed control system of claim 9, wherein the weed contacting member is suspended from the support member which is rotatably coupled to a stationary unit proximate the body of water and which extends over a surface of the body of water.

- 11. (Previously Presented) The weed control system of claim 9, wherein water activated means automatically changes a direction of movement of the weed contacting member when a pre-determined time limit is reached.
- 12. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising: a support member;
- a buoyant member coupled to the support member to keep the support member at or above a surface of the body of water;

an elongate weed contacting member suspended from the support member to descend beneath the surface of the body of water and extending parallel relative to a length of the support member; and

a driver to move the support member across the surface of the body of water in a repeating pattern such that the weed contacting member also moves in a repeating pattern and repeatedly brushes against any weeds beneath the support member.

- 13. (Original) The weed control system of claim 12, wherein the support member includes an elongated pipe having a first end rotatably coupled to a stationary unit proximate the body of water.
- 14. (Original) The weed control system of claim 12, wherein the driver includes a water activated driver coupled to the support member.

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- 15. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:
  - a support member;
- a buoyant member coupled to the support member to keep the support member at or above a surface of the body of water;
- a weed contacting member suspended from the support member to descend beneath the surface of the body of water; and
- a driver to move the support member across the surface of the body of water in a repeating pattern such that the weed contacting member also moves in a repeating pattern and repeatedly brushes against any weeds beneath the support member, wherein the driver includes a reversible propeller.
- 16. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising: a support member;
- a buoyant member coupled to the support member to keep the support member at or above a surface of the body of water;
- a weed contacting member suspended from the support member to descend beneath the surface of the body of water; and
- a driver to move the support member across the surface of the body of water in a repeating pattern such that the weed contacting member also moves in a repeating pattern and repeatedly brushes against any weeds beneath the support member, wherein the driver includes a motor-driven wheel which rolls over a floor of the body of water.

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17. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:

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a weed contacting member;

means for moving the weed contacting member through the body of water proximate a

bed of weeds; and

a controller which, in response to a timer, periodically reverses the direction of the means

for moving such that the weed contacting member is repeatedly moved back and forth across the

bed of weeds and such that if the weed contacting member gets stuck within the water, the

controller will reverse the direction of the means for moving and the weed contacting member

will become free once the timer reaches a time limit.

18. (Original) The weed control system of claim 17, wherein the weed contacting member is

suspended from a support member such that the weed contacting member brushes against any

weeds in the bed of weeds.

19. (Original) The weed control system of claim 17, wherein the means for moving the weed

contacting member includes a water activated means.

20. (Original) The weed control system of claim 17, wherein the means for moving the weed

contacting member includes a motor-driven means.

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21. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising: an elongated support member positioned parallel to a surface of a body of water and positionable at or above the surface, the elongated support member having a first end rotatably coupled to a stationery unit proximate the body of water;

an elongate weed contacting member suspended from the support member and located beneath the surface, the elongate weed contacting member extending parallel relative to a length of the support member; and

a reversible driver coupled proximate a second end of the elongated support member to drive the elongated support member in a rotating manner repeatedly back and forth across the surface of a section of the body of water such that the weed contacting member is repeatedly pulled back and forth beneath the surface of the section to repeatedly contact any weeds located in that section.

- 22. (Original) The weed control system of claim 21, wherein the reversible driver is water activated.
- 23. (Original) The weed control system of claim 21, wherein the weed contacting member includes a cross-bar having a plurality of tines extending from a body of the cross-bar.
- 24. (Original) The weed control system of claim 21, wherein the reversible driver is motor driven.
- 25. (Previously Presented) A method of controlling weeds in a lake or river, the method comprising repeatedly brushing a bed of weeds with a weed contacting member which is suspended and freely hanging down from a support member located proximate a surface of the lake or river.
- 26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein repeatedly brushing includes periodically reversing a direction of the weed contacting member in response to a timer such that the weed contacting member moves back and forth over the bed of weeds.

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27. (Previously Presented) A method of controlling weeds in a lake or river, the method comprising:

coupling a first end of a support member to a stationary unit proximate the lake or river such that the support member extends over a surface of the lake or river;

suspending a weed contacting member from the support member such that the weed contacting member is located beneath the surface; and

moving the support member in a repeating circular arc pattern such that the weed contacting member repeatedly brushes against any weeds located proximate the weed contacting member to disintegrate the weeds.

- 28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the weed contacting member momentarily and lightly contacts any weeds proximate the weed contacting member.
- 29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the weed contacting member does not pull any weeds up onto a shore of the lake or river.
- 30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the weed contacting member is moved through the lake or river with a thrust of between 1 lb. and 7 lbs.
- 31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, including a user varying the height of the weed contacting member relative to the support member.

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32. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:
a weed contacting member suspendable within the body of water proximate a bed of
weeds; and

a drive member for automatically moving the weed contacting member in a repeating, circular arc pattern over the bed of weeds, the weed contacting member freely hanging down from a support member located at a surface of the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly brushes against any weeds in the bed of weeds, wherein the drive member includes a reversible propeller.

33. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:

a weed contacting member suspendable within the body of water proximate a bed of
weeds; and

a drive member for automatically moving the weed contacting member in a repeating, circular arc pattern over the bed of weeds, the weed contacting member freely hanging down from a support member located at a surface of the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly brushes against any weeds in the bed of weeds, wherein the drive member includes a motor-driven wheel which rolls over a floor of the body of water.